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DA 98-1019

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED FOR COMMENTS ON ASSOCIATION FOR LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING SECTION 706

CC DOCKET NO. 98-78

Released: May 28, 1998

On May 27, 1998, the Association for Local Telecommunications Services (ALTS) filed a petition pursuant to section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 seeking a declaratory ruling that the pro-competitive provisions of sections 251, 252, and 271 of the Communications Act apply to the deployment of advanced data networks, and that CLECs have the same rights with respect to access to advanced data networks as they have for conventional "POTS" and other telecommunications services. In its petition, ALTS identifies a series of actions that the Commission should take action to promote deployment of advanced telecommunications capabilities.

Interested parties should file an original and 12 copies of their comments on the ALTS petition no later than June 18, 1998, with the Secretary, FCC, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. An original and 12 copies of all reply comments should to be filed with the Secretary, FCC no later than June 25, 1998. All pleadings are to reference CC Docket No. 98-65. An additional copy of all pleadings must also be sent to Janice M. Myles, Common Carrier, Bureau, FCC, Room 544, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554, and to the Commission's contractor for public service records duplication, International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS, Inc.), 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036. The ALTS petition is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center, Room 239, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Copies also can be obtained from ITS at 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036, or by calling ITS at (202)-857-3800 or faxing ITS at 202-857-3805.

Parties are strongly encouraged to submit diskettes containing their comments and their reply comments. The diskettes will be used to post parties' comments and replies on the Internet. These diskette submissions are in addition to, and not a substitute for, the formal filing requirements. Parties submitting diskettes should submit them to Janice Myles of the Common Carrier Bureau, 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 544, Washington, D.C., 20554. Diskette submissions should be on a 3.5 inch diskette formatted in an IBM compatible form using WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows software. The diskette should be submitted in "read only" mode. The diskette should be clearly labeled with the party's name, the name and docket number of the proceeding, the type of pleading (comments or reply comments), the date of submission, and the file name with the "*.wp" extension. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter.

We will treat this proceeding as permit, but disclose for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules. See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. Parties making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain a summary of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required. See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2), as revised. Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in section 1.1206(b) as well. Interested parties are to file with the Commission Secretary, and serve Janice Myles and ITS, with copies of any written ex parte presentations or summaries of oral ex parte presentations in these proceedings in the manner specified above. We also require all written ex parte presentations or summaries of oral ex parte presentations in this proceeding to be served on all parties to the proceeding.

For further information, contact Janice M. Myles, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-1580.